Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.
ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

W. N. ARMSTRONG, EDITOR.

TUESDAY.....MAY 30, 1899.

THE WAIKIKI SALOON.

The granting of license to keep a saloon on the Waikiki road, directly upon the causeway at the terminus of the tramcar line, was a most unfortunate piece of carelessness on the part of the Government. The building itself does no credit to the place. It belongs to that style of architecture called the "shanty." Across the face of it is an enormous sign presenting the words, "Enterprise beer." This sign, it is said, is easily read through glasses of those standing on the decks of outgoing and incoming steamers. The causeway itself furnishes the only grand view of the ocean on the Waikiki road. This view, combined with that of Makee Island, with its stately ironwood trees, presents the most picturesque effect in the city or its suburbs, excluding, of course, the mountain views. The land side of the causeway should be acquired by the Government, so that seats could be permanently placed so as to front the ocean. Right in this scene of wonderful tropical beauty of ocean and land this saloon shanty has been placed, which is a quick reminder of the saloons on the outposts of civilization.

Let there be a saloon in that neighborhood, if it is needed, but let it be placed at some distance from the road, on one of the side streets, where it will not be conspicuous. The traveler, who, after a long journey by sea, at last sighted land and a gallows standing on it, exclaimed: "Thank God! I am again in civilization," and he would surely have made the same exclamation if he had seen a saloon in place of it. But why place these evidences of man's crime and weakness in conspicuous places? Why make a loafing place of one of the prettiest spots in the city?

In justice to the Government it may perhaps be said that it granted the license without having its attention called to the location of the saloon. The license will expire before long, and it should not be renewed unless another place is taken.

MILES AND EMBALMED BEEF.

The press of the Mainland that habitually denounces the President, refuses to accept the findings of the military court in the matter of embalmed beef. It pronounces it a whitewashing affair, and charges the President with organizing the court in such a way as to secure an acquittal. But the finding of the court will stand approved by the common sense of the country.

The court does not find that embalmed beef was used as charged by Gen. Miles, and it censures him for not making an official report on the matter the moment that he believed that it was used. Any one familiar with the industry of preparing meats, and the reputations of the great concerns who furnish it, does not believe that they were guilty of the charge of using injurious chemicals in the process. Their trade depends upon popular opinion, which is extremely sensitive in the matter of canned goods. They simply furnished to the army an article which was a staple in trade.

The finding of the court virtually is, that Gen. Miles lost his head. Why he lost it, is not stated. He appears to have suddenly become prejudiced against the commissary department, and did, what is always a dangerous thing to do, dispose of the matter by an ill-considered opinion of his own. The weakest point in his case is that he never told the Government about it, but "went into the newspapers" and permitted them to flash the sensational stuff over the country, and enrage the people at the treatment of the volunteers.

Perhaps Gen. Miles will now follow the example of Gen. McClellan, who, when removed by Lincoln from the office of commander of the Army of the Potomac, became a candidate for the Presidency in order to vindicate himself. Will the Democratic party nominate him? It certainly would do so if Miles could command a large vote. But he has not taken any glory in the Spanish war, and he cannot be pictured astride of a charger riding down a legion of frightened Spaniards. And he has himself become embalmed in history as a commander who lost his head—not on the battlefield.

The ways of democracy are queer. The people are the masters. But the subordinate machinery of government forbids the commanding general to talk too freely to his masters lest he lead them astray. "Don't let the people know too much" is the wisdom of the inferior political leaders.

President McKinley is vindicated, but the report of the court is virtually that when the nation "went a gunning" for Spaniards in the tropics it should have thought of the homely things as much as it did of the glory of storming entrenchments. It did not, and was in the predicament of the three small boys who left home secretly on a trip to the North Pole, of which they had read, and provided themselves only with a basket of buns and some molasses candy. But the homely things came quickly to the front when Uncle Sam went into Cuba, and the loss of a good many lives made him swift to realize the needs of the hour.

LABORERS IN THE BRITISH COLONIES.

Lord Stanmore, the Governor of Mauritius, has established harmony between the planters and the Indian laborers.

The laborers are satisfied with the wages and are saving money. Some of the coolies are proprietors or co-proprietors in the sugar estates.

The British colonial governors are not always in harmony with the British residents and planters of the colonies who represent the mercantile interests, and are always clamorous for a colonial rule which will put money in their pockets, without reference to the well-being of the native inhabitants. Opposed to them is a powerful, though not dominant, party at home, which would be called in these Islands "the missionary party." It has modified the harshness of the mercantile spirit in the colonies, and has, after many years of persistent labor, made the colonial rule an enlightened and beneficial rule. It is this party which strenuously opposes the British opium trade with China, and would have forced the Government to abolish it, if the loss of it did not seriously cripple the revenues of the East Indian Government. It has, however, forced the colonial rulers to govern justly, even at the expense of the British subjects in the colonies.

The ablest and most progressive of these governors have looked to England for approval, and not to the British subjects residing abroad. They have enforced the laws protecting immigrants, and some of them have achieved great success in improving their condition. They have recognized the British citizenship of the meanest coolie, and given them a certain protection. Time and again the British colonial planters have sent protests to the home Government against alleged arbitrary acts of these governors, but the "missionary" influence at home has usually defeated their schemes and forced them to live up to some measure of justice.

A REMARKABLE MAN.

Mr. Henry B. Hyde, who recently died in New York city, was one of the most successful business men of his generation. At the time of his death he was the vice-president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, whose assets now amount to over $200,000,000. Although he was not the founder, he became its chief executive agent when it was hardly known to the public, and soon showed great business capacity. When the trustees of the company fixed his salary and income many years ago, at $75,000 per year, the public was surprised at this act of seeming extravagance. This was done before the period of large salaries commenced. It was at the time the largest paid in the United States. The managers of the association were far-sighted men, and had mapped out the growth of an organization beyond the dreams of even enterprising men. They counted on the enormous growth of population, and the desire of men to provide for those who survived them. This firm faith in expanding America was one of the secrets of Mr. Hyde's success. The results of his work at the end of thirty-five years surprised even Mr. Hyde himself. The command of several hundred millions of assets by a few men, to be cared for as the provision which thrifty or serious men make for those dependent on them is one of the striking features of modern social life. Men like Mr. Hyde are invaluable in a community.

The subscription of the amount needed to equip the Hawaiian exhibit at the Omaha Exposition should be made not for the purpose of direct pecuniary gain, but in order to show our fellow-citizens of the Mainland that we are quite like them, and are also civilized.

In spite of all that has been said and written about these Islands, the majority of people in the States still are suspicious about our social conditions, and too many of them believe we live in huts, and occasionally receive a newspaper from the Mainland. The Omaha Exposition gives another opportunity for us to show the multitudes of the West that in annexing to the United States did a most sensible thing, and that it is a grievous mistake to class us among those who occupy the back seats in the congregation of the civilized.

AT GETTYSBURG.

Thirty-six years ago Abraham Lincoln delivered a speech at Gettysburg which stands now in the hearts of men as a message rivaling in patriotism and wisdom the farewell address of Gen. Washington. Scholars call it eloquent and equal to the great speeches which adorn the most momentous occasions in Anglo-Saxon history.

The incidents of its delivery become more interesting as time passes. The opinions of the men who sat on the Gettysburg platform when the speech was delivered are now the evidences of the short vision of man, and the failure of Lincoln's able contemporaries to mark the value of his thought on that occasion. The rising generation should understand how fallible human judgments are dealing with current events.

Col. Lamon, the Marshal of the District of Columbia, and Lincoln's aide and attendant says of the occasion and the speech:

"Mr. Everett's address was worthy of the solemn occasion and of his great fame as an orator. He was tumultuously applauded. While the President delivered his few hundred words the multitude observed perfect silence. One might have been able to hear the proverbial pin drop.

"As for me, I recognized the brief address, Lincoln having read the first draft to me a few days previous. This took place at my house in Washington, whither the President had come to spend the evening. On removing his hat on that occasion a folded sheet of foolscap paper dropped out.

"'I will read that to you, Hill,' he had said. 'It is a memorandum of my forthcoming address. But, let me tell you it is not at all satisfactory to me. You know, I am driven to death nowadays; still, the public will expect a supreme effort, nevertheless. I am afraid, though, it will be disappointed this time.'

"What the Gettysburg audience thought of the speech I do not pretend to know. At any rate, the people indulged in no demonstrations; but we, on the platform, I am ashamed to say, felt much depressed on account of it. Mr. Everett, answering to a whispered question from Secretary Seward, bluntly said: 'I am disappointed. It was not what I expected from Mr. Lincoln.'

"'And what is your opinion, Mr. Seward?' added Everett. Mr. Seward replied: 'He has made a botch of it, and I am very sorry. That speech was not worthy of Lincoln.'

"The Secretary of State then asked my judgment. I could only regretfully indorse the criticisms already passed, for I felt, with the rest of Lincoln's friends, that his speech was not up to the mark."

When it was reported that the address was received with cheers and sobs, Col. Lamon said:

"I am the only Lincoln biographer who was on that platform at Gettysburg. The others got their material second-hand, and among these writers were many, who, during Lincoln's lifetime, had run to their wits' end to blackguard the President. After his death they fell in with the general throng and lauded him to the sky. They positively invented so-called facts and incidents calculated to glorify Lincoln, and the apotheosis of the Gettysburg speech was only one of these maneuvers.

"I repeat, there were only perfunctory demonstrations of applause at the conclusion of Lincoln's remarks. Moreover, the President himself felt that he had made a failure. 'Lamon,' he said, shortly after it was finished, 'that speech won't scour. It's a flat failure, and the people are disappointed.' 'Won't scour' was Lincoln's favorite expression for lack of merit.

"Later on, at Washington, the President returned to the subject. 'Hill,' he said, 'I tell you that speech fell on the audience like a wet blanket. It distresses me to think of it. I ought to have prepared it with greater care.' Similar remarks I heard from his lips time and again in after years."

The newspapers of the day were very severe in their criticisms of the speech, according to Col. Lamon:

"If a single word of praise was printed about the Gettysburg speech in 1863 I don't remember it. Most of the papers jumped on the President for using the phrase, 'the government of the people, by the people, and for the people,' calling him a plagiarist. This charge hurt Lincoln deeply. When he spoke those words he never suspected that they would be regarded as original. The thought, you know, is as old as the republican idea of government, and this particular phrase had been a household word with Lincoln for years previous to Gettysburg."

Are our own judgments about the events of our times, of the men who in a measure guide them, any better than the judgments of Lincoln's contemporaries and friends?

The truly eloquent and scholarly speech of Edward Everett is no longer read. The present generation are generally ignorant of its existence.

But as the mass of the people slowly comprehend the deep truths of Lincoln's thought, and what the real meaning is of rule by democracy, and the vast responsibility it creates, that speech takes its place in our literature as one of the best messages ever delivered by a conspicuous apostle of the rule of the people.

SUNDAY PAPERS.

The British public refuses to support Sunday newspapers, not because it is a more righteous public than the American, but because it has not abandoned its old ways of doing things. The American public will cordially support this proposition that it is itself at least equal, if not superior in moral worth and intelligence to the British public. And yet the Sunday newspaper has become a permanent and almost the best part of the current literature throughout the land. Some foolish preachers have had their fingers jammed in trying to close the door on it. Some religious newspapers have solemnly, but in vain, denounced its publication. It reaches now the majority of families and is welcome because of the high stand it has taken in furnishing excellent literature at the cheapest rate. Many people take only the Sunday edition of an enterprising newspaper in order to get the valuable material it contains. The best authors find some of their most profitable work in writing for the Sunday paper.

The American public, always more eager for news than the British public, naturally demanded these Sunday papers. The vast number of persons in the cities who do not attend church find in them both amusement and instruction.

Fortunately, the moral influence of these papers has been good. Few, indeed, are the preachers who can preach as well as the writers on these papers, because they are in the world and of it, and get nearer to the hearts of men. The average man who can read, understands the thought of the newspaper, but he does not, as a rule, understand the thought of the pulpit, because it gingerly touches on life, and persistently ignores the homely facts. The paper gives to its readers life as it is. The pulpit too generally gives it to its hearers as it is not.

Whether there should or should not be a Sunday newspaper is now only an academic question, because it is firmly established and entertains and instructs so many who refuse to enter the churches.

The British public is still under the force of its customs and habits of thought, which exclude what seems to be a profane act on Sunday. But this exclusion by no means indicates high-n standards of life. The English people who discourage Sunday papers insist that the beer shops should be opened during certain hours of the Sabbath, so that the public should not go thirsty. It is therefore, not so much a matter of morals as of habit that condemns the reading of papers on the Sabbath.

NAVAL PROMOTIONS.

There is much dissatisfaction among the officers of the navy about the promotions made for "distinguished services during the war." There are hard-headed men who are perfectly familiar with the exact history of the naval engagements, and have not lost their heads in taking account of what was done. The battle of Santiago is regarded by them as only a case of excellent gun practice. They know and say to each other that the Spanish fleet, with its smokeless powder and hitless guns, was not even a respectable foe. A distinguished naval officer, who recently visited this port, declares that the Spanish fleet should have concentrated upon one or two of our vessels and sunk them; that any naval commander with pluck would have done it. But the Spanish officers and men were conscious of their own inefficiency, and realized the result of the Manila fight. The affair is called a "great victory" over a weak antagonist, the victory of a mastiff over a pup.

Knowing, as these officers do, the exact nature of the service done, they see little "distinguished service" rendered by which certain officers have been unduly and unjustly promoted over others.

But the navy is at the mercy of a despotic press. In the rivalry between the correspondents of the enterprising journals, success in "powerful writing" was rather more important than the close truth. Facts were exaggerated, deeds which would come within the line of common duty were developed into heroic actions. The descriptive powers of the correspondents were exercised to the utmost in order to supply startling news. Careful estimates of the real value of services of officers were not made, because the popular mind demanded something "hot." The public got first impressions and made them lasting impressions. The Navy Department, after careful examination, gave Sampson the credit of knocking over the poor, lame Spanish duck at Santiago. The public, influenced by the press, gave Schley the credit for it. The men at the guns have bitterly denounced Schley since the battle. Then the public asks these fighting sailors, "What do you know about war?" and gives Schley the honor. The European naval critics say little about the victory, but admire the superb gun practice.

In the volunteer service upon land, the heavy shower of brigadierships does little harm, because the service is ended. In the navy the officers serve for life. Promotion is a serious matter to them. For many years to come brave men will discharge their duties well, but the feeling will rankle that a "grateful country" lost its head and did them much injustice.

MEMBERS' SOCIAL.

Arranging for a Reception at the Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. social committee, composed of John Waterhouse, chairman; George Howard, R. Weedon, W. L. Templeton, C. A. Elston, W. E. Pinkham, W. I. Madeira, G. W. Burgess and Louis D. Gear, met last evening at the Association parlors and discussed the program for the members' social to be given a week from Thursday night. It is intended to make this one of the most informal and enjoyable affairs yet given by the Y. M. C. A. Special care will be taken to make all the new members feel at home and to have everybody get acquainted. Among the numbers will be musical selections by a quartette; Elston, Frazier and Peachy will manipulate the guitars and mandolins; Johnson, Batchelor and Clarke will perform some startling feats on the horizontal bars and flying trapeze; Atherton will twirl and gyrate the Indian clubs. Invitations will be issued to members members only, but will include the privilege of bringing a friend.

A Birthday Party.

Will L. Peterson, the young financier, was 26 years of age yesterday, and Mrs. Peterson and friends gave him a birthday party at the home on Hotel street, near Punchbowl. The house is a fine, large, new one, and the lawn is pretty with trees, vines and flowers. The residence was dressed for the occasion, and the grounds were brightly illuminated. There was much excellent music, and dancing was indulged in. In the course of the dinner, which was quite elaborate, good wishes were showered on both Mr. and Mrs. Peterson. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Richly, Mr. and Mrs. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Wheatly, Joseph and Winnie Wheatly, all of San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Ryrie and Mr. Hooper, of Moscow, Idaho; Mr. and Mrs. Gill, of Whatcom, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Richards, of Spokane, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Ellison of Vancouver, B. C.; Dr. Atcherly, of Kauai; Dr. Jenningson, J. A. Hurl, Mr. Weedon, J. B. Peterson, J. C. Peterson, William A. Cottrell and A. Robinson, all of Honolulu.

Funeral This Morning.

The funeral of Joseph Nahale, the student who died at Kamehameha school last week, will be held this morning at 8 o'clock. Rev. Silas Perry will be in charge of the service, and Professor Theo. Richards will preach the sermon. All friends and relatives are invited. After the services the manual and preparatory students will march to the Inter-Island wharf, in military order, and will do military honors to the remains, which will go by the Mauna Loa to Kailua.

Electric Power.

The McBryde Sugar Company will be supplied with electricity developed by the Hanapepe falls, and the streams of Koula. The work will be entrusted to F. J. Cross. $50,000 having been set aside for this purpose. In addition to Mr. Cross, F. B. McStocker, M. P. Silliman and J. A. Magoon will be included in the syndicate.

IN LIEU OF CABLE

Adaptability of Wireless Telegraphy Pointed out.

TRIAL OF IT HERE URGED

A Claim that Marconi's System Can be Placed in Use Without Channel—In Advance of Cable.

Editor P. C. A.: It has now been abundantly proved that the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy is—within certain limits, at least—a complete success. It is true that the distance—thirty-two miles—covered, so far, is not great, but the accuracy and promptitude with which messages have been transmitted and received between the South Foreland, England, and Boulogne, on the coast of France, under all sorts and conditions of weather, leaves no doubt as to its practicability.

Further, the complete success of the experiments between the South Foreland and the Goodwin Lightship, shows that many of the dangers and inconveniences of travel on the trackless ocean may be eliminated, and we have reason to hope that the ships on our great waterways may soon be as easily communicated with as the trains on any of our railroads.

The system is also cheap and its operation is simple. According to the estimate of Professor Fleming, of London University, the total cost of the installation at the South Foreland would not exceed $500. Here, then, is what we want in the Islands, a system which is cheap, accurate, and easy of manipulation. The widest channel in the group, that between Oahu and Kauai, is but sixty-one miles across, at its narrowest part. This stretch, according to Marconi's rule, would require a vertical wire of about 160 feet. All the other channels are less than thirty miles at their narrowest parts. Their cases could, therefore, all be met with wires from 80 to 120 feet in height.

We are much in need of rapid inter-island communication. The islands, as they lie, are eminently adapted for such a sytem. We have the cliffs standing on every island ready to receive the vertical insulated wires. We have the restless business men and plantation managers chafing over our isolation, when news delayed for three or four days may mean the loss or gain of as many thousands of dollars.

The cheapness and utility of the system is beyond question. Lord Kelvin has seen it, tried it, and given it the stamp of his approval. Many other eminent scientists have done likewise, but the stamp of Kelvin alone is sufficient to clear away all doubt. Sig. Marconi is still busy elaborating his system, and we wish this brilliant young Italian every success, but enough has already been done with the system as it stands to show that it meets a long-felt want. I suppose we will have cable communication with the Mainland sooner or later—most likely later—but I don't expect we will ever see an inter-island cable. Wireless telegraphy will be able to meet all our requirements. Let us begin now and be able to give the big cable a hearty greeting when it does come. A little enterprising capital is all that is required. We are rich, and we own the country; let us furnish it in a manner befitting our importance, and our times.

J. A. G.

Kauai, May 22, 1899.

GEN. GREELY'S VIEW.

(Hilo Tribune.)

During the recent visit of Mr. L. T. Grant to Washington, he interviewed Gen. A. W. Greely, Chief of the Signal Office of the War Department, upon the subject of the Marconi wireless telegraphy with which experiments were at that time, and are still, being made. Mr. Grant's purpose was to learn as to the practicability of this system and the advisability of its being applied to inter-island communication in Hawaii. Gen. Greely said that up to that time the system had hardly been found practicable. They had succeeded in signaling five miles or so, though results were often dubious. He could not recommend it for island distances. He suggested, however, the heliograph system and requested Mr. Grant to furnish what data he could applicable to the subject, which Mr. Grant did by letter a little later. Gen. Greely's reply, given below, will be found of interest:

Washington, May 6, 1899.

Mr. Louis T. Grant, Gen. Mgr. Hilo Elec. Light Co., Ltd., Hilo, H. I.

Sir:—In reply to your letter of April 27th, I have to say that the data contained therein is not sufficient to determine whether or not communication by heliograph is practicable. The matter, will, however, be taken up at once by this Department and if possible, stations will be established under the direction of the commanding officer of the troops. The final solution of the problem will be to connect the Islands by submarine cables, for which purpose a special appropriation will be required. Very respectfully,

A. W. GREELY,
Brig. Gen., Chief Signal Officer, U. S. A.